(d) Specific provisions for collection of informa-

For purposes of this section, a provision of law referred to in this subsection means-

- (1) the first section of the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect and publish statistics of the grade and staple length of cotton", approved March 3, 1927 (7 U.S.C. 471) (commonly referred to as
- the "Cotton Statistics and Estimates Act");
 (2) the first section of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the collection and publication of statistics of tobacco by the Department of Agriculture", approved January 14, 1929 (7 U.S.C. 501);
- (3) the first section of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the collection and publication of statistics of peanuts by the Department of Agriculture", approved June 24, 1936 (7 U.S.C. 951):
- (4) section 203(g) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622(g));
- (5) section 526(a) of the Revised Statutes (7 U.S.C. 2204(a));
- (6) the Act entitled "An Act providing for the publication of statistics relating to spirits of turpentine and resin", approved August 15, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 2248);
 - (7) section 42 of title 13;
- (8) section 4 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish the Department of Commerce and Labor", approved February 14, 1903 (15 U.S.C. 1516);
- (9) section 2 of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent", approved June 16, 1976 (15 U.S.C. 1516a); or 2
- (10) section 3(e) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1642(e));²
 - (11) section 2204g of this title.

(e) Information provided to Secretary of Com-

This section shall not prohibit the release of information under section 2204g(f)(2) of this

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVII, §1770, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1657; Pub. L. 105–113, $\S4(a)(2)$, (b), Nov. 21, 1997, 111 Stat. 2276; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, 1000(a)(3) [title III, 348], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A-207.)

AMENDMENTS

1999—Subsec. (d)(10), (11). Pub. L. 106-113 added par. (10) and redesignated former par. (10) as (11).

 $1997 — Subsec. \ (d)(10). \ \ Pub. \ \ L. \ \ 105-113, \ \S4(a)(2), \ \ added$ par. (10).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 105-113, §4(b), added subsec. (e).

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 1502 of this title.

§ 2277. Contracts by Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for services to be performed abroad

Funds available to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) under this

and subsequent appropriations shall be available for contracting with individuals for services to be performed outside of the United States, as determined by APHIS to be necessary or appropriate for carrying out programs and activities abroad. Such individuals shall not be regarded as officers or employees of the United States under any law administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

(Pub. L. 102-142, title VII, §737, Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 915.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in the following prior appropriation act: Pub. L. 101–506, title VI, §641, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat.

§ 2278. Consistency with international obligations of United States

(a) In general

Prior to the promulgation of, or amendment to, any order or plan under a research and promotion program relating to research and promotion of any agricultural commodity or product, after November 28, 1990, where such order or plan would provide for an assessment on imports, the Secretary of Agriculture shall consult with the United States Trade Representative regarding the consistency of the provisions of the order or plan with the international obligations of the United States.

(b) Compliance with U.S. international obliga-

The Secretary of Agriculture shall take all steps necessary and appropriate to ensure that any order or plan or amendment to such order or plan, and the implementation and enforcement of any order or plan or amendment to such order or plan, or program as it relates to imports is nondiscriminatory and in compliance with the international obligations of the United States, as interpreted by the United States Trade Representative.

(c) Construction

Nothing in this section shall be construed as providing for a cause of action under this sec-

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XIX, §1999T, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3928.)

§ 2279. Outreach and assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers

(a) Outreach and assistance

(1) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter referred to in this section as the "Secretary") shall provide outreach and technical assistance to encourage and assist socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to own and operate farms and ranches and to participate in agricultural programs. This assistance should include information on application and bidding procedures, farm management, and other essential information to participate in agricultural programs.

(2) Grants and contracts

The Secretary may make grants and enter into contracts and other agreements in the

 $^{^2\,\}mathrm{So}$ in original. The word ''or'' probably should appear at end of par. (10).